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July 20, 2000

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Anthony A. Gallegos, Senior Reclamation Specialist aag

RE: Site Inspection, Geokinetics, Seep Ridge Mine, M/047/002, Uintah County, Utah

Date of Inspection: June 27, 2000
Time of Inspection: 1040 - 1450
Conditions: Partly cloudy, warm
Participants: Mickey Schott and Tom Concannon, Geokinetics; Tony Gallegos, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To examine the last reclamation performed at the site and also determine the reclamation remaining to be completed.

The names used in this memo to reference areas are shown on the oversize map titled "Figure 1 - Seep Ridge Project - Experimental Site #1, 1984 Annual Report." A copy of this map was provided to Geokinetics during this inspection for their files. The main areas of interest for this inspection were those areas identified in the Division's inspection memo of 4/12/96 as needing additional reclamation, or areas with unreleased reclamation.

The first area visited was tank battery #1. In this area all the equipment has been removed leaving only a flat earthen pad. Final reclamation of this area would include deep ripping to relieve compaction and seeding. The ripping would also make this area less attractive for vehicles to travel on while vegetation is being re-established. A photograph of this area shows the generally barren pad area and the adjacent vegetation.

The next area visited was the camp area. The camp area contained little visible debris. Several pads for trailers parking were still visible as leveled areas with lesser amounts of vegetation. Some of these pad areas are visible in the photographs. A road through the trailer camp still exists. There is a fair amount of vegetation established throughout the camp area due to reclamation seeding or natural invasion over the long time period of inactivity. Given the extent of the natural revegetation, it may not be desirable to regrade or rip this area and then reseed. The existing vegetation cover will need to be considered in evaluating additional reclamation in the camp area. Division files will also need to be reviewed to determine if this area has been released yet. Photographs were taken to document the amount of vegetation in this area.

The next area visited was the site of the P-1 Monitoring Wells. We could not find these wells, but from the map it appeared that P-1 was located within an area which had already been reclaimed. The Division's 4/12/96 inspection memo mentioned that this well had been plugged. Photographs of the

reclaimed area were taken looking south with the two vehicles facing each other on the road in the background. This area may be eligible for final reclamation release if the vegetative cover meets the success standard.

The next area visited was the road above the shop. It was unclear whether the shop area had been seeded, or if it actually needs to be seeded. Division files will need to be reviewed, and the Minerals biologist consulted regarding seeding of this area. Photographs of the shop pad were taken looking toward the southwest with a portion of the state vehicle in view.

The next area visited was the office area. Photos of the office site were taken looking toward the southeast. In these photos will be what appears to be a degraded concrete pad, but this is actually the rock outcrop on the surface. This rock outcrop may need to be ripped, but ripping may cause more harm than good, depending on the adjacent vegetation, or depending on what is expected to grow in this outcrop material.

We next visited the nearby water tank, or the water well location. A standing tank is still present here. This tank was empty, but the valves connecting to the pump appear to be fairly new, meaning someone has been using the well, or intends to use this well in the immediate future. A generator and fuel tank are also located in this area. The soil beneath the generator has been saturated with fuel or oil from refueling spills or leaks.

The next area examined was the nearby "U" shaped excavation west of the office area. Final reclamation would include regrading this excavation and revegetating the area. Photographs were taken of this excavation showing the location in relation to the water tank.

The next area examined was the landfill. The 4/22/96 memo mentioned that the remaining portion of the access road past the sanitary landfill will need to be regraded. The memo also mentioned that the pad area southwest of the nearby Tank Farm #2 will also need to be regraded, ripped and seeded. A majority of the landfill area looks undisturbed, or looks like it has been unaffected for some time, based on the invasion of natural vegetation. There is a road remaining around the landfill with a pile of grubbed vegetation on one side. The pile of grubbed vegetation is a visible attractant and a fire hazard. Ideally, this material would be spread out over reclaimed areas to increase the organic content and help naturalize the area visually. The reclamation plan will need to be reviewed to see what other work was expected to be done here.

We then looked at the nearby Oil Storage/Shipping area and the Power Generation Facility. These areas are still visible as level pads. Final reclamation area would include ripping and seeding these areas.

The next area examined was labeled as a Topsoil Stockpile on the map. In this area there is a flat pad area with a road running through. There is no topsoil stockpiled in the area at this time. Final reclamation of this area would include ripping and seeding.

The next area examined was a nearby pile of material. This material was possibly used as road base throughout the site, or maybe as an overburden replacement material. Final reclamation would include regrading these piles to blend in with the natural contours and then seeding the regraded area. Photos were taken from this vantage point of the general site looking toward the northeast to the east with the water tank visible in the distant background.

We next went to the P-2 Well site. At this site there were three pipes or three wells with metal caps over them. Two of the metal caps are locked and the other cap is in place, but unlocked. Reclamation of these and the other wells would include the appropriate plugging or decommissioning of the monitoring wells by excavating below grade to expose the casing, cutting that casing off, plugging the well with concrete or grout as required, and then backfilling the excavation to the surface, and possibly leaving a monument at the surface where the well is located. It's possible that these wells need to be decommissioned or closed in a very specific manner, depending on whether the wells were set up for groundwater monitoring, or for retort operations.

The next area visited was the P-4 Well site. This site is along the main county road. At this site were three metal covers over the wells. One of the covers was unlocked. Photographs of these monitoring wells includes Mickey Schott standing near the well casing with a yellow field book

The next area examined was the P-3 Well site. We had some difficulty finding these wells. Photographs were taken of the three wells with the locked covers. A yellow field book was placed on the most distant well cover.

We then went to the P-6 Well site. At this monitoring well site were two wells with locked metal covers and one well without a locked metal cover. The well without a metal cover did have a plastic cap over the top of the well casing.

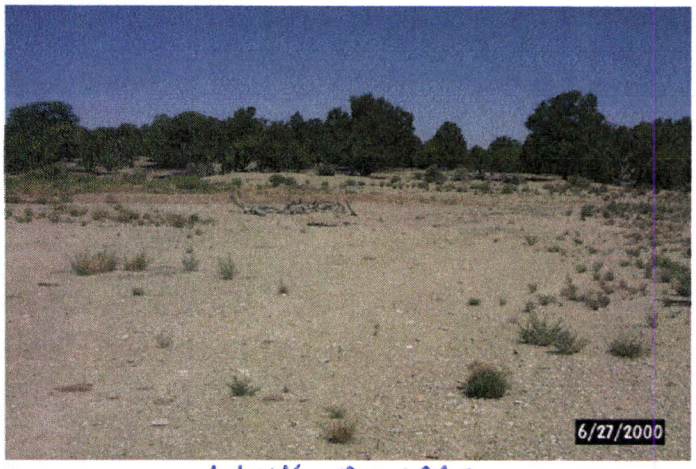
The next area visited was the P-5 Well site. We had difficulty finding the access road to the P-5 Wells. This site can be accessed by driving north along the natural gas pipeline east of the P-5 site, and then walking up to the site.

In conclusion, the Division was to write up the inspection memo and forward copies of the memo and photos to Geokinetics and SITLA. The Division would contact SITLA regarding the remaining reclamation to be performed at the site, and final release of some reclaimed areas. After discussing the project with SITLA the Division would follow up with a letter to Geokinetics describing the reclamation work still needed at the site. Ideally, this letter would go out soon enough to allow reclamation work to take place this coming fall 2000.

jb
cc: Mickey Schott, Geokinetics w/copies of photos
John Blake, SITLA w/copies of photos
M47-02-ins

M/047/002

1/4

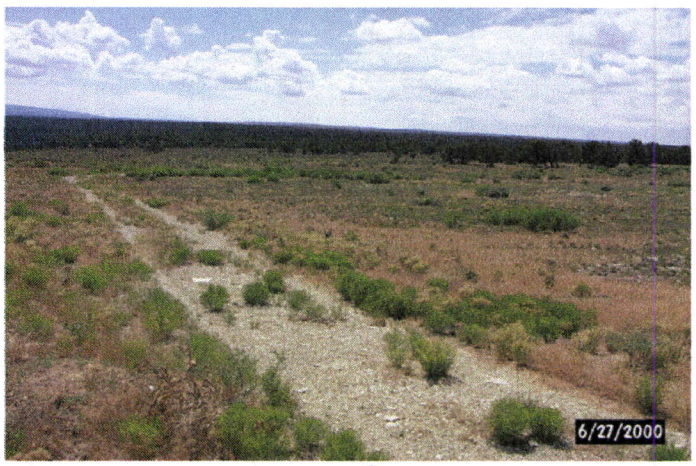


TANK BATTERY

CAMP

CAMP

CAMP



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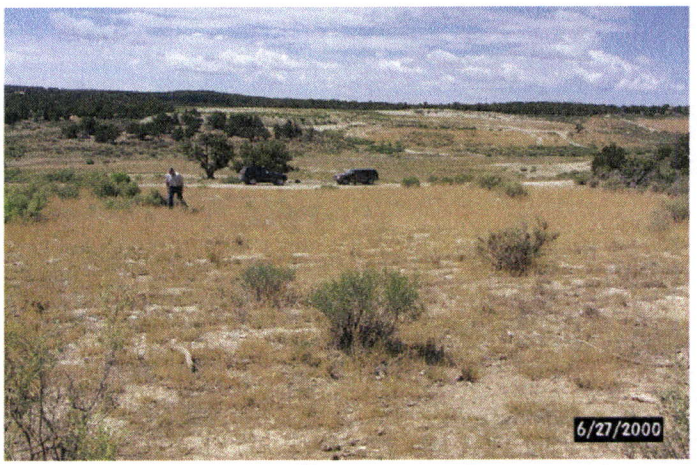

P-1 AREA

M/047/002

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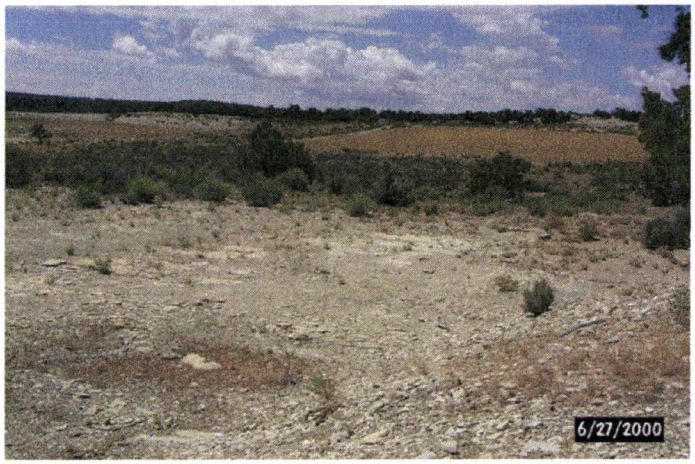
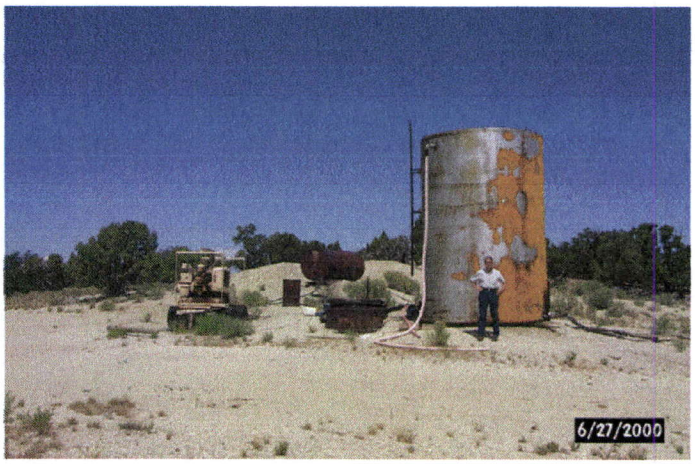
SHOP AREA



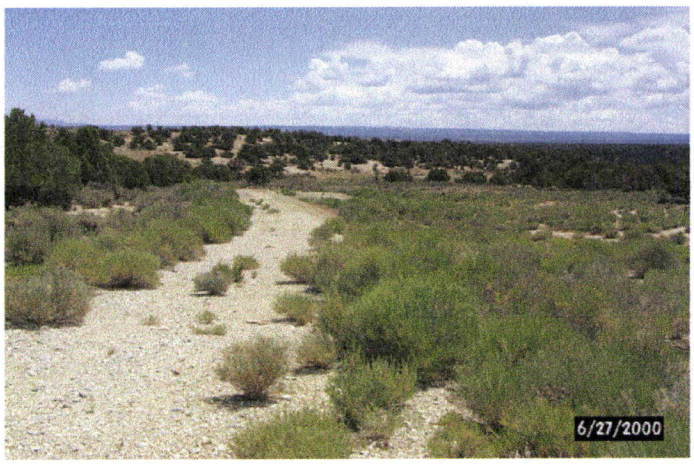
OFFICE AREA



WATER WELL

WATER WELL

U SHAPED EXCAVATION



LANDFILL

M/047/002

3/4

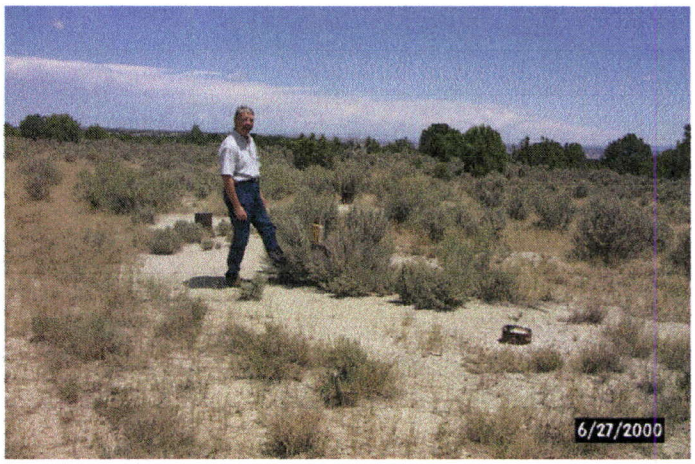
LANDFILL AREA

PILES NEAR TOPSOIL

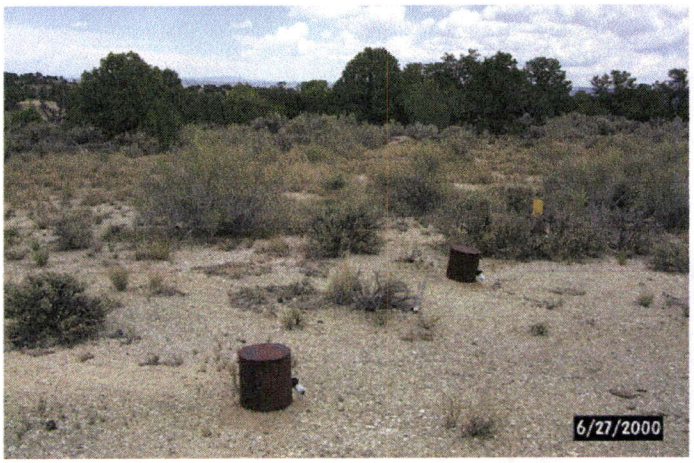
PILES NEAR TOPSOIL

OVERVIEW

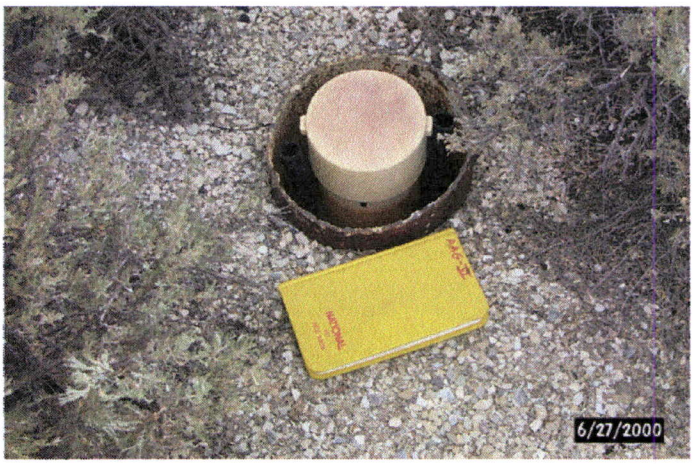
P-2



P-4



P-3



P-6

P-6

P-5